POPERY ANATOMIS'D.

OR THE

PAPISTS

Clear'd from the Falle Imputation of

IDOLATRY.

AND

REBELLION,

In a Letter to a Friend.

Printed in the Year MDCLXXXVI.

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THE YES MIDDLE XXVI

To the Reader

Totale Reader.

Reader, good to correct that Religious states and more

He Fanatick Party are Represented in this Paper as having no Church, no Religion at all. For the proof whereof, I can but refer you to their Meetings; where you shall find them instructing His Majesties Subjects how to Pray without the Lords Prayer, Believe without the Creed, Repent without Confesfion and Absolution: How to get an Interest in Christ without Loyalty to the King, without Obedience to the Church, or due Restitutions; Nay, without believing any such thing as One Holy Catholick Church; And to have Charity for Turks, Jews, Atheifts, Pagans, Libertines, or any body, but Papilts. You shall find the whole Mistery of their Sermons wrapt up in Sounds, Ambiguities, and Generalities, to catch People by the Ears without any meaning in the World beyond amusement and imposture. You shall find them crying aloud, Friends leave your fins ; But whispering, Boys stand to your Arms, Inveighing furioufly against Popery, and yet so ignorant what Popish Religion is, that I dare affirm not one of a hundred has ever so much as seen a Millal, a Breviary, a Ritual, a Trent Catechilm, or Pontifical, which are the Authentick Books of the Church of Rome. And (which is worst of all,) undermining the Church of England

To the Reader.

England: For His Majesties Subjects (especially the Commons) being distracted with sears and apprehensions of Popery, are very apt to conclude themselves not safe from the dangers of that Religion, without running some steps further towards Presbytery, Independency, or Anabaptism; as was apparent in the years Eighty, and Eighty One, when the Commons at Westminster and Oxford, (tho' professing the Church of England, yet, to see themselves against Popery) thought it their best policy to comply and joyn Interests with Fanaticks. Witness the Association.

But I hope two things are manifested in the ensuing Discourse. First, the consequence of charging the Papills with Idolatry; and That to the Church of England. Secondly, the ill Service it does to His Majesty, because manifestly tending to alienate the Hearts of His Subjects, and insence the Rabble, whose ungracious temper cannot love the Person, whist they hate the Religion of the

Prince.

I pray call to mind what Doctrine it was that fent so many Thousands into the Field against the blessed King CHARUBS the First. Was it not Popery, Popery? The every same that sent so many Bloody and Sacrilegious Canibals to Monmouth, upon his Landing at Lyme, and created so many other Enemies to King JAMES the Second, as only waited their opportunity, and expecting the Rebels success to shew themselves.

So that if Monmouth had prosper'd, then perhaps

To the Reader.

Jome Preachers (whose Character is Loyalty) had found too late by their Harangues against Popery, they had done the Papifts bufiness, and their own too. They bad found that the same Texts and Reasons would ferve turn against the Hierarchy of Arch-Bishops, Bishops, Deans, Arch-Deacons, as effectually as against the Pope and his Clergy; Against Bishops Lands, as well as against Abby Lands; against Tythes also as grievous to the People. That this Text, Stand fast in the Liberty wherewith Christ hath made you free, (when Fergufon had the handling on't) would do as well against Prelacy and its Ceremonies, as against Popery and its Ceremonies. And this Scripture (the hour cometh, and now is when the True Worthippers shall Worthip the Father in Spirit, and in Truth, for the Father seeketh fuch to Worthip Him) would ferve to casheer all Littergies and Forms of Prayer as well as the Mass.

Thus the Church must have been Reform'd by Mon-mouth and his Vicar-General Ferguson. And all in pursuance of this blessed Principle, that every Man, though never so unlearned, must be allow'd a Judgement of Discretion, to Read, and Understand the Scripture for himself, so as not to pin his Religion on the Sleeve of the Church. Which Principle being once receiv'd with the Multitude, I see not how any Church can stand against

it.

Nor would it help us to say the Church hath a Judgement of Direction, or a Judgement of Authority where-

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To the Reader,

toevery Man is bound to be Obedient either actively or passively; that is, if we cannot think as the King and Church would have us, we must submit and suffer; To which Ferguson would have answer'd, that then there can be no Reformation, no turning out of Popish Prelates, nor Alienation of their Lands, if we must be surely passive under the Authority of a corrupt Church. Ies, he would have told us plainly in the Language of Corah, Dathan, and Abiram, will ye, put out the Eyes of these Men? Will ye allow them to read God's Word, and then debar them the use of their Understandings, or liberty of their Consciences? What (saith he) shall we tollerate a Sinful Superstitious Common-Prayer-Book, the very dregs of the Mass, when it is in our power to suppress it?

Hence you may see the consequences of the Fanatical Principles of Reformation; and the vanity of this thing called Judgement of Discretion, allow'd to all sorts of Factious and unbelieving People; that Mischief, Schism, and Confusion, are as inseperable from it, as Fire from a Flint. I should think Two things requisite to a Judgement of Discretion, Learning and Modesty, both which are wanting to very many of your Trading People.

ple. Farewel.

POPERY ANATAMISD,

In a Letter to a Friend, &c.

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Have sometimes told you my Opinion concerning some late Sermons, which (endeavouring to prove the Church of Rome Idolaters,) do undermine the very Foundations of the Church of England. And I remember I expressed my Reasons after this plain manner.

First, For the Church of Rome to teach and practice Idolatry, (material or formal as you distinguish) and at the same time to be a Christian Church, or any part of Christs Catholick Church, is past my understanding.

2. That Idolatry is a fundamental Errour, and deftroys a Christian Church, as certainly as one Mortal wound kills a man.

3. If the Church of Rome be no Christian Church,

then the first Protestant Bishops receiv'd their Orders from a dead hand; which to my apprehension, makes nothing for the interest of the Church of England.

Then I proceeded to tell you my thoughts how justly Papists are charged with Two things, Idolatry and Disloyalty: which I shall here send you with the best improvements I could make of them. You may remember I gave you my opinion of Fanaticks as no Church at all; having no Orders of Priests and Bishops; nor any Ministry allow'd by the Church of England; consequently no true Sacrament, no power of binding and absolving Sinners. To say nothing, of Creed and Lords Prayer, wholly banish'd

from their Meetings.

-To begin with the first Point, the Idolatry of Papiffe. I know no better way towards a good understanding, than by recommending the Mass it self, to your painfal, lately published in the English Tongue. Which you stall find to be a Service offered up, not to any Saint or Angel, or other Creature, but only to the Living and True God, Father, Son, and Holy Short I pray read it, and believe your own eyes. So that, if to begin their Devotions in the Name of the Holy Trinity, and conclude all their Collects in the Name of our Saviour Jefus Christ, be Idolatry, then Papilts are Idolaters See Council Triden Seff 21 c.2. as for the CONFITEOR, which some People stumble atto every Rationale may help you to a good apprehenfion then

herion thereof, unless you on the charge goods and goods that you do not ignishes to another Books that you do not ignishes to another Books that you do not ignishes to another Books that you do not ignishes to a secure of the contract of

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Moreover, all Papifes will tell you they neither Believe nor Worship any thing for God, that is not God : nor own any flich thing as Praying to Saints or Angels, otherwife than to defire wheir Prayers for us, being so unworthy to Pray for our selves: Believing those Glorified Spirits as capable, at least of knowing what's done upon Earth, as the Prophet Elisha of knowing what pass'd in the King of Spria's Bed-Chamber; that is, by Illumination from God alone. The same Prophet Elisha being afar off, faw all that passed between Nasman, and his Servant Gehazi. And furely without some reciprocal knowledge, there can be no Communion at all between the Saints in Heaven, and the Faithful on Earth. The which is an Article of our Creed. Indeed Papifts renounce all Belief and Service of more than one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: And attribute nothing to Saints or Angels, but as his Ministers or Favourites; receiving from him, whatever underflanding they may have of our Affairs upon Earth-The accuser of our Brethen (lays St. John) is can down, which accuses them before our God day and night. Now the Devil cannot accuse Men day and night before God, but he must first know for what. And shall we deny that understanding to the Glorify'd Spirits, which must needs be granted to the Devil himself? But if

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any expressions you meet with in Popish Manuals, or Prayer Books that you do not like, the way to a good understanding, is, to enquire our their Sense of it: For I remember a Presbyterian once told me, he thought these words in the Common Prayer-Book, O Ananias, Azarias and Misael, Praise ye the Lord and Magnify him for ever, every whit as bad as the Popish Invocation of Saints, taking them in his own sense; and not in the sense of the Church of England. But I pray tell me if a truly penitent Sinner, (under the apprehension of his own-vileness and displeasure of Almighty Cod,) should in the confusion of his Soul, defire the Prayers of Saints or Angels, where is the damnable Errour ? It being the declar'd Doctrine of the Church of Rome, that all Intercessions of Saints have no virtue or force, but what they derive from the Merits of the Great Mediator Christ Jesus; as the Moon and Stars have no light but what they borrow from the Sun. To whose Merits you do not think it any affront to defire the Prayers of good Men upon Earth-

Again, as for the Popish Worship of Images; Many ignorant People stumble at this word Worship; and think it never imports any thing, but that supreme Honour which belongs to God alone. Whereas Worship signifies any kind of respect or Reverence given to any person according to his Digniry; therefore in the English Phraise, we call all eminent Gentlemen

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tlemen, Worshipful. And all Men do Worship. others when they put off their Hats, or bow their Bodies to them. And whereas you fay it is but civil Worship that you give to Men, it is impertinent. For Civil and Religious Worship do not differ in the outward act or expression, but in the intention or object of our mind: That being civil Worship which is given to a civil Person, or Thing; and that Religions Worship which is given to a Sacred Person or Thing. Now Saints being Holy Persons, their Pi-Etures, or other things that belong to them, may be faid to be Holy, because they have relation to them; and the Scripture faith, put off thy Shooes from thy Feet, for the place where thou standest is Holy Ground, Exod. 3-5. Holy in regard of the presence of the Angels, by whom the Law was delivered; For which cause also the Vessels and Utencels of the Temple were called Holy.

But the sure way to know what the Church of Rome believes in this matter, is to consider the words of the Council of Trent, and then to distinguish betwixt their Doctrine, and the practice of silly People. The words are these, viz, Imagines Christi, deipara Virginis, alignumq; Sanctorum in Templis prafertim habenda to retinenda sunt, &c. That is, the "Images of Christ, of the Virgin Mary, and other "Saints, are to be had and retained, especially in Churches (mark the Council does not say the Images

"of God) and due Honour to be imparted to them, "not for that any Divinity is to be believed to be in "them, or virtue for which they are to be Worship'd, "or that any thing is to be expected from them, or "hope to be placed in them, as in times past the Pa"gans did, who put their trust in Idols; But because "the Honour given to them, is indeed exhibited to "those things which they represent: so that by the "Images before which we uncover our heads, we re"spect Christ and his Saints. Council Trident. Sess."

" 25. cap. 2.

Phanaticks think Protestants before the Altar every jot as superstitious, as Papists bowing before their Images: And think our kneeling before the Sacramental Bread and Wine, which (fay they) are but a Figure or Image of Christs Body and Blood, to be all out as scandalous, as Papists doing the same before their Pictures. An English-man entring into difcourse with a Jew at Amsterdam, enquir'd of him what he thought of Christians, and particularly of Papists? he answered, they are the worst sort of Christians, because by their Images they keep up the memory of that grand Malefactor and Impostor, whom they call Jesus, &c. Now as for the abuse of Images, omnis Superstitio in imaginum usu Sacro tollatur, saith the Council of Trent, let all Superstition be taken away in the use of Images; and further gives it in charge to all Bishops to look to it; quod si aliquando Historias

onarrationes sacra Scriptura, cum id indocta plebi expediat, exprimi or figurari contigerit, &c. "That is, "if at any time the Histories or Passages of Holy "Scripture shall happen to be painted or set forth in "imagery, the people are to be taught, that God is "not therefore pictur'd, as if he could be represented "by any shape or colours, or seen by any corporal Eyes. These very words are honest and satisfactory enough to any man that is not troubled with a Spirit of perverlenels.

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Again, as for their adoration of the Hoft; do but ask the most ignorant Papist, what is that object whereunto he kneels in receiving the bleffed Sacrament? He will answer you, not the Elements of Bread and Wine, which he neither Worlhips nor intends to Worship, but only the Body and Blood of our Saviour; which He believes to be present, and You absent. So that if I am mistaken, says he, 'tis nor in the Object of my Devotions, but in the presence or absence of that Object. Which mistake, how it should render with an Idolater, and not a Lu. theran, that holds the same thing, he cannot underfland, being therefore deceiv'd neither in the Object nor intention of his Service? What if he should ask the question, who gave you Authority to pronounce Him, with all the Chrurches of Italy, Spain, France, Austria, Greece, Idolaters, for literally understanding our Saviours words, This is my Body which is given for

for you? Certainly Idolatry is nothing else but the giving sepreme Worship to some Creature, believing it to be God, or to be like God. This the Church of Rome never do, no not to the Body and Blood of Christ, abstracted from his Divine Nature. Whereas the Pagans believ'd, and ador'd those things for Gods, that were no Gods. They became vain in their imaginations, saith St. Paul, changing the Glory of the incorruptible God, into an Image made like corruptible Man. and to Birds and Fore-footed Beasts, and creeping things. But now if the Hitiories of Holy Scripture (faith the Councel of Trent) happen to be express'd in Imagery, doceatur populus, the People are to be Instructed, that God is not therefore figur'd as if he could be feen by any Corporal eyes, or represented by any Colours or Figures. Papists never say Mass to any other Object but the living God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghoft. But St. Paul tells us expresly of the Pagans, 1 Cor. 10. 20. I say that the things which the Gentiles Sacrifice, they Sacrifice to Devils, and not to God. And Rom. 1.25. They changed the truth of God into a Lye, and served the Creature more than the Creator. Read the 32th. Chap. ter of Deut. v. 16. 17. Idolatry of the Ifraelites.

The Body and Blood of Christ is verily and indeed taken and received by the Faithful in the Lords Supper, saith the Church of England. This verily and indeed, you interpret virtually and estetually: That is, you receive not his Body, but the virtue of his

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Body or you receive not the Body of Christ, but the Bodies of Bread and Wine, none other Body being present. We receive Christ virtually and effectually in the Sacrament of Baptism, say the Papists.

Prasentiam credimus, modum nescimus, was the saying of Durandus, and commended by Bishop Bramhall. And if I am not miltaken, the Church of England, and Church of Rome, disagree not in the thing, namely the Real Presence. But you will needs determine the manner how. I would willingly deny the Real Presence (said Luther in Epist. ad Argentinenses) that I might not consent with the Pope in any thing, were not the Scriptures fo manifest in the case; and particularly these words of St. Paul, He that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh Damnation to himself, not discerning the Lords Body.

But in all this controverly, still the question remains, who shall Judge where the mistake lies? And till this be refolv'd, we are like to be never the nearer. If you say the Scripture must be Judge, then I ask what if I take the Scripture in one sense, and You take it another, who shall determine the busigels, the Authority of the present Church, or eve-Man's Sense and Reason? If the former, 'tis rank Popery. If the latter, 'tis down-right Socinianism: If you will have the Primitive Fathers for Judges, Itill Imust demand, what if I take 'em in one sense, and You take 'em in another? Are all those citations impertinent

pertinent, that are levy'd out of the Fathers by Bet armine, Perron, Bedanus, Maldonat, and others, in favour of the Popish Dollrine? And have you examin'd them all? What think you of St. Cyprian's words, de Cana Domini, (viz.) panis ifte quem Dominus Difeipulis, porrigebat non effigie sed Natura mutarus omnipotentia verbi factus eft caro, Nay, what think you of St. Paul's words, is not the Bread which we break, the Communion of the Body of Christ ? 1 Cor 10. 16. and must we needs kill one another about this word Trunlubstantiation? In short, that the Church of Rome are Idolaters, cannot, (I prefume,) be any Article of the Church of Englands Creed, whilft the Prayers for His prefent Majesty in these words, viz. That it may please thee to keep and strengthen in the True Worshipping of Thee in Righteousness and Holmess of Life, the Servant JAMES, out mift gracion King and Governour. Mark thefe words, keep and frengthen in the true Wor. thipping of Thee. Which being laid from our hearts, de plainly suppose, or grant His Majesty to be a good Obriftian. If you fay this Prayer was intended only for Protestant Princes, I pray then fatisfic me why is it faid now? Or who has power to after it without His Majeflies Authority & Mo one, & therefore

Now as for the Majs and Ceremonies used in the celebration thereof, beware of that popular implety of Calling every thing Superstition that you do not understand. And give me leave to tell your a Truth that

that is not every day considered; Divide your True Protestants (as they call themselves;) or Enemies of the Mass, into seven parts, and five of emare in their hearts, perhaps, but indifferent Friends to the English Liturgy; which if Monmouth had prospered, you had found with a wirness

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Thus you have my poor Opinion conderning the Idolatry of Papists; and how some late Preachers, by charging it upon them, little think they are undermining the Foundations of the Church of England, and consequently Preaching off their own Castocks; For if the Church of Rome both teach and practice Ido. latry, they are indeed no Church of Christ, but of Antichrift. And then what shall become of the Priesthood and Christian Orders of the Church of England, whose first Bishops in the days of Edward VI. must derive their Succession and Consecration by the way of the Church of Rome? Unless you will have Papists to be Idolaters, and Christian Bishops at the same time; and so lodge the power of the Keys, and the power of Darkness in the same hands. Can we ferve Christ and Belial?

Metaphysically a true Church, but not Morally. Which answer, it it signifies ought to your purpose, must import thus much, that their Christian Orders can never be forseited, notwitstanding their Apostacy from God. Now to my simple understanding, Christian

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ffian Orders must of necessity make Christian Parftors; it being impossible for them to ordain other Christian Pastors, and be none themselves. If they be nor, what is their Mission and Holy Orders, but the imposition of a dead Hand? So I cannot make

sense of your true Metaphysical Church and with house

Upon the whole matter, if the Church of England be only a Member of the Catholick Church, her interest must never be divided from the rest of the Body. But if Papists both teach and practice Idolatry, and the Eastern Churches do the same, (for they also believe the literal sense of our Saviours words, hocest corpus meum) what then is become of the Catholick Church?

To my apprehension, it were as impossible for the Church of Rome (maintaining Errours destructive to Salvation) to be any part of Christ's Catholick Church, as it is for a Man to livedong after he is mortally wounded. To say they hold forme Truths, what does it avail them, when they are lost in the main point, the Belief, and Service of the true God?

In a word then, you allow the Church of Rome due Orders of Priests and Bishops, and consequently the power of the Keys. Now the difficulty which I am not able to resolve, is this; to have the power of Excluding and receiving others into the Catholick

Church, and not be of it themselves.

So much for the first point, the Idolatry of Papists. I proceed to the fecond their Disloyaty. Wherein there is certainly a militake; fince in the most Popish Countreys, as Italy, Spain, Austria, &c., Rebellions are seldom or never heard of; I am sure not under the pretext of Religion. While in our Protestant Mands no fewer than Seven Funatical Conspiracies have happened within the space of twenty five years last past. But why cannot Papists be Loyal Subjects? You will instance perhaps the Gun-powder Trenson, which A will grant to have been a most wicked Conspiracy of some English Papists against their Protestant Trince: And those not above 60 Persons; and amongst them not one Popila Lord You will not expect personal honesty from every Papist, any more than from every Protestant. Nor I hope will you forget how that Treason came to light: Was it not by the Loyalry of the Lord Mounteagle, a Papift, honeftly shewing a Letter fent by one of the Conspirators? See Barclay's Conspiratio Anglicana, giving an impartial account thereof.

cester (thanks be to God) fell into good hands; and

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But the general Doctrine of Papilts (say you) is for a Power in the Pope to Depose Princes. And you are not so sure of it, as I am that all Fanaticks are for a Deposing Power in the People; insomuch that the most

most virtuous Prince must never expect to be quiet for them; Winness King CHARLES the First

You instance a Decree of the sourch Later an Council under Pope Innocent the Third. But I intreat you to observe the time of Assembling that Councel. Was it not in the year 1213. When not only the Kings and Princes, but almost all the People of Burope were Papiss: And by their Embassadors or Representatives at Rome, subscribing and consenting to the Decrees thereof. So that if any thing injurous passed there, you may call it their own Act and Deed. Nor do I understand how Princes can commit Treason against themselves. You know the Christian World at that time apprehended no injury, but rather security in making such a Decree. Security not only of their Ecclesiastical, but Civil Peace. For experience tells us the method of Fanaticks is to be, gin with the Church, when their aim is at the civil Government.

But you will say the Decree requires Popish Princes to exterminate Herely out of their Dominions. To which may be answered. First, 'tis no Arriele of Faith; but controverted even by Papists without any censure of Herely. Secondly, I suppose you have heard how that in France, and in Rome it self, all Persons are problished meddling with such Doctrine; and how Becanus and Sanctarellus have been censured for it. Thirdly, it can never be interpreted to oblige Princes

quiet Princes to experminate their Loyal Subjects. And Count fuch is every Church of England Man, that is without byon all mixture of Galvinism and Fanatism. Such a Man incel. having nothing at all in his temper (whatever igthe norance he may have) irreconcileable to One Holy Bu- Catholiek Church But fuch wete not the Waldenfes rs or and Albigenfes aim'd at by this Councel. Whose Tenting pers most of them were so wild and absurd, as good trous Protestants would be now aftern'd of For instance, and the Albigenfer with the Saduceen deny de the Refurrection of the Body; and that after death, there is comhriany fuch place as Hell, With the Minichees they held but two Gods who one Evil, who other Good. They retricy | jeck all Bapelin as a needles and unpromptle things For They fay is a wails a Man nothing to frequent the be Church, and fay his Prayers. In thort, they were a

ous Porver le Spirits, Thomato for doctroit mistrant Horse The Waldenses heldy than the Lain shother Party might Preach and Consecrate the Eucharist; that all Magistrates lose their Authority by committing morral sin. That to take any Oath, even before a Magistrate is unlawful. That no Man, (tho' never so just and honest,) can be say'd in the Church of Rome.

See Prateolus de dogmat. Haveticorum

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A Man that is a Heretick (laith St. Paul) after the first and second Admonition, is rejected. And good reason I think, because such Men are not only singular in their Opinions, but Factious commonly in their Natures. Natures. The word Heretick, (if properly rendered into English), signifies one that is a chooser of his own Religion. Or one that having no Commission from God, will needs take upon him to advance his own sense of Scripture against the received Faith of the Church! which in plain terms is nothing but Pride.

The Premisses being seriously consider'd, I see no impossibility why all Loyal Protestants, and Papists,

may not arrive at a good understanding.

But I foresee two fores of People like to be offended at this Discourse, Fandticks and Trimmers: And I can easily satisfie my self with the words of the Church of England, Preface to the Common-Prayer-Book, viz. We know it is impossible in such waters of Apprehensions, Humonrs, and Interests as are in the World, to please all. Nor can expect that Men of Factious, Perverse Spirits, should be satisfy d with any thing that can be done in this kind, by any other than themselves.

and bone (i) can be for the Church of Rome.

ral sin. That to take any Oath, even before a Magidrate is unlawful. That no Man, (tho) never so just

A Man that is a Hereick (laith St. Paul) after the first and second Admonition, is rejected. And good renton I think because such Men are not only singular an their Opinions, but Eastious commonly in their

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